

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT NO.

CS 311/01816-64

SUBJECT Rumors of Russian Efforts to Destroy Ukrainian Historical Works

DATE DISTR.

// August 1964

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REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO.

May 1964

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: A Ukrainian emigre who traveled to the USSR in June 1964 (F). Appraisal of Content: 3.

A Ukrainian emigre who traveled to the USSR in June 1964, stated that Soviet Ukrainians with whom he had talked claimed that the Russians had started a fire in the Library of the Soviet-Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in order to destroy important Ukrainian documents and books. The 28 May 1964 issue of Radyanska Kultura merely reported that a fire had taken place in the library on 24 May 1964. In actuality the fire lasted for 36 hours because members of the firefighting brigade deliberately sabotaged their own efforts. According to the emigre it was generally believed that all of the writings of the famed Ukrainian historian, Mykhaylo Hrushevskyy, were lost in the fire.

Headquarters Comment: Although Hrushevskyy has been dead since 1934, his 10-volume history of the Ukraine, which is now unobtainable in the USSR, is considered one of the most important histories ever written on the Ukraine.

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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